

Message Text

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17

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

OMB-01 ACDA-05 /071 W

----- 088635

R 190640Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2945

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 1067

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, TC, XF

SUBJ: UAE-KUWAITI TALKS ON GULF SECURITY

1. I ASKED KUWAITI AMBASSADOR SULAIMAN AL-SHAHEEN WHAT HE MADE OF TALK RECENTLY ABOUT POSSIBLE DISCUSSIONS AMONG GULF STATES ABOUT THEIR MUTAL SECURITY. HE SAID HE HAD BEEN PRESENT IN KUWAIT DURING VISIT OF UAE FONMIN SUWAIDI, WHO HAD MET WITH BOTH AMIR AND FONMIN SABAH AL-AHMAD. SUWAIDI SPENT QUITE A BIT OF TIME REVIEWING UAE INTERNAL SITUATION IN CONTEXT OF BROADER REGIONAL SECURITY (SUWAIDI AS LEADING EXPONENT OF STRONGER FEDERAL AUTHORITY KEEPS HOPING THAT UAE'S "FRIENDS" WILL WEIGH IN WITH RACALCITRANT RULERS) AND HE ALSO PUT FORWARD PROPOSAL, WHICH SHAHEEN DESCRIBED AS "RATHER VAGUE," FOR GULF SECURITY PACT. ACCORDING TO SHAHEEN, SABAH AL-AHMAD REACTED BEARISHLY. AL-AHMAD SAID KUWAIT WOULD FAVOR CLOSER CONSULTATIONS TOWARD THIS END BUT BELIEVED FORMAL PACT NOT APPROPRIATE AT THIS TIME. HE MENTIONED NEED FOR RESOLUTION OF MANY BORDER
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DISPUTES IN AREA AS PREREQUISITES FOR ANY FORMAL ASSOCIATION,

KUWAIT'S CONTINUING SUSPICION OF IRAQ AND NEED FOR PERIOD OF TIME
TO TEST NEW LOOK IN BAGHDAD, AND HIS OPINION THAT IT
WOULD BE HARD TO RUN FORMAL PACT SMOOTHLY.

2. SHAHEEN SAID FORTHCOMING VISIT BY JABER AL-AHMAD WAS IN
RESPONSE MANY INVITATIONS EXTENDED BY UAE OFFICIALS.
WHILE SHAHEEN THOUGHT DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE USEFUL, HE DID NOT
EXPECT ANYTHING STARTLING TO RESULT FROM VISIT.
STERNER

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